

About Mule Deer

According to the Western Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies, Mule deer do best in habitats that are in the early stages of plant succession. They look for thick brush and trees to use for shelter and look for small openings that provide forage and feeding areas.

Mule deer do not like to feed in planted areas with stable plant communities that are dominated by large trees and large shrubs. Tree-dominated habitats offer mule deer a place to retreat from severe weather, but these areas offer little in the way of food.

In other words, deer like plants that are young and small, where grassy plants and shrubs dominate. They do not like to feed in areas that have more mature and established landscapes.

Partners & Resources

Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

1594 W North Temple, Suite 2110
P.O. Box 146301
Salt Lake City, UT 84114
Phone: 801-538-4700
Email: DWRcomment@utah.gov
Web: wildlife.utah.gov/learn-more/mule-deer.html

Western Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies: Mule Deer Working Group

555 N. Greasewood Rd.
Tucson, Arizona 85745
Phone: (520) 388-4448
Email: jheffelfinger@azgfd.gov
Web: www.muledeerworkinggroup.com

Mule Deer Foundation

1939 South 4130 West, Ste. H
Salt Lake City, UT 84104
Phone: 1-888-375-DEER (3337)
Web: www.muledeer.org



Bountiful City Hall
790 South 100 East
Bountiful, Utah 84010
801-298-6140
www.bountifulutah.gov

BOUNTIFUL
City of Beautiful Homes & Gardens

MULE DEER



July 2014

Deer In Bountiful

The presence of deer within Bountiful City has increased significantly over the last decade. While the deer are a beautiful presence of nature, they have also become a danger to human safety, as well as their own, when entering roads, public property and private property.

Likewise, the feeding habits of the deer population have become a destructive nuisance on private and public property, creating a problem for landscaping, gardening, and recreational space within our community.



What Bountiful City Is Doing

Step One:

In 2011, the City Council passed a law allowing landowners to establish an 8-foot fence to keep deer off private property.

Step Two:

Bountiful City Council also enacted a new ordinance in February 2014, making it illegal for anyone to feed deer.

Step Three:

This City is working to educate Bountiful residents, businesses, and property owners, by providing informational materials, such as this brochure, about deer habitat and what they can do to deter deer.

Step Four:

Bountiful City is currently working on a formal agreement with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources to initiate a trial, catch and relocate program. The hope of the proposed program is to catch, transport, and relocate deer in a farther and safer location from Bountiful City limits. This program will not be done on private property without the permission of landowners.

What You Can Do

If you have unwanted deer on your property, here are a few helpful tips to proactively detract deer from entering your property:

- **Protect your plants and gardens** from disturbance while they are young and trying to mature.
- **Choose landscaping** that includes large trees and large shrubs.
- **Do not feed the deer.** Not only is it prohibited by Bountiful City ordinance, according to the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, feeding deer will draw them out of their natural habitat, cause them to become dependent on the food you provide, and it can kill them.
- **Increase your fence height** to 8-feet. Check with the City first at, (801) 298-6190, so our friendly staff can help you ensure that your fence is built correctly the first time.
- **Check our Website at** www.bountifulutah.gov/DeerPlan.aspx in the coming months about the status of the catch and relocate program.